

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

* * *

MANUEL NEREZ III,

Plaintiff,

v.

HOWELL et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:16-cv-00333-APG-NJK

ORDER

This action is a *pro se* civil rights complaint filed pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 by a former state prisoner.¹ On March 30, 2016, this Court issued an order directing Plaintiff to file a fully complete application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for non-prisoners or pay the full filing fee of \$400.00 on or before April 29, 2016. (Dkt. #4 at 2). The deadline has now expired, and Plaintiff has not filed an application to proceed *in forma pauperis*, paid the full filing fee, or otherwise responded to the Court's order.

District courts have the inherent power to control their dockets and “[i]n the exercise of that power, they may impose sanctions including, where appropriate . . . dismissal” of a case. *Thompson v. Hous. Auth. of City of Los Angeles*, 782 F.2d 829, 831 (9th Cir. 1986). A court may dismiss an action, with prejudice, based on a party's failure to prosecute an action, failure to obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules. See *Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54 (9th Cir. 1995) (dismissal for noncompliance with local rule); *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260-61 (9th Cir. 1992) (dismissal for failure to comply with an order requiring amendment of complaint); *Carey v. King*, 856 F.2d 1439, 1440-41 (9th Cir. 1988) (dismissal for failure to comply

¹ Plaintiff was incarcerated at the time he initiated this lawsuit. (Dkt. #1-1 at 1).

1 with local rule requiring *pro se* plaintiffs to keep court apprised of address); *Malone v.*
2 *U.S. Postal Service*, 833 F.2d 128, 130 (9th Cir. 1987) (dismissal for failure to comply
3 with court order); *Henderson v. Duncan*, 779 F.2d 1421, 1424 (9th Cir. 1986) (dismissal
4 for lack of prosecution and failure to comply with local rules).

5 In determining whether to dismiss an action for lack of prosecution, failure to
6 obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules, the court must consider several
7 factors: (1) the public's interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court's need
8 to manage its docket; (3) the risk of prejudice to the defendants; (4) the public policy
9 favoring disposition of cases on their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic
10 alternatives. *Thompson*, 782 F.2d at 831; *Henderson*, 779 F.2d at 1423-24; *Malone*,
11 833 F.2d at 130; *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1260-61; *Ghazali*, 46 F.3d at 53.

12 In the instant case, the Court finds that the first two factors, the public's interest in
13 expeditiously resolving this litigation and the Court's interest in managing the docket,
14 weigh in favor of dismissal. The third factor, risk of prejudice to Defendants, also
15 weighs in favor of dismissal, since a presumption of injury arises from the occurrence of
16 unreasonable delay in filing a pleading ordered by the court or prosecuting an action.
17 See *Anderson v. Air West*, 542 F.2d 522, 524 (9th Cir. 1976). The fourth factor – public
18 policy favoring disposition of cases on their merits – is greatly outweighed by the factors
19 in favor of dismissal discussed herein. Finally, a court's warning to a party that his
20 failure to obey the court's order will result in dismissal satisfies the "consideration of
21 alternatives" requirement. *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1262; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 132-33;
22 *Henderson*, 779 F.2d at 1424. The Court's order requiring Plaintiff to file an application
23 to proceed *in forma pauperis* or pay the full filing fee by April 29, 2016, expressly stated:
24 "IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if Plaintiff does not timely comply with this order,
25 dismissal of this action may result." (Dkt. #4 at 2). Thus, Plaintiff had adequate warning
26 that dismissal would result from his noncompliance with the Court's order to file an
27 application to proceed *in forma pauperis* or pay the full filing fee on or before April 29,
28 2016.

1 It is therefore ordered that this action is dismissed without prejudice based on
2 Plaintiff's failure to file an application to proceed *in forma pauperis* or pay the full filing
3 fee in compliance with this Court's March 30, 2016, order.

4 It is further ordered that the Clerk of Court shall enter judgment accordingly.

5 Dated: May 9, 2016.

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7 
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE